GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5803
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
RAJASTHAN SHARE OF POWER IN HYDRO STATIONS IN PUNJAB
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a number of representations from the Government of Rajasthan for referring the case to Supreme Court about sharing of power generated from Hydro-Electric Power Projects/stations, Thein Dam, Anandpur Sahib Dam, Mukerian, UBDC Stage II and Shahpur Kandi as agreed upon and signed by the Union Power Minister, Governor of Punjab, Chie Ministers of Haryana and Rajasthan on May 10, 1984;

(b) if so, whether the Government have referred this issue to the Supreme Court for its opinion;

(c) if so, the time by which this case is likely to be referred to the Supreme Court;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government are reluctant to refer it to the Supreme Court due to political compulsion or is trying to find out amicable settlement between constituent States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (f) : The State Governments of Rajasthan and Haryana have been raising the issue of share of power in the following Hydro-electric Projects in Punjab:-

1) Anandpur Sahib HEP (134 MW)
2) Mukerian HEP (207 MW)
3) Thein Dam (Ranjit Sagar HEP) (600 MW)
4) Upper Bari Doab Canal Stage-II (45 MW)
5) Shahpurkandi HEP (168 MW)

To settle the issue of claims of Rajasthan and Haryana for a share of power generated in the above Projects in Punjab, an agreement was drawn up on 10.5.1984 amongst Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and the Central Government for making a reference to the Supreme Court on the question of entitlement of Rajasthan and Haryana in these Projects and in case there being such an entitlement, to determine the share of each State. In order to arrive at an amicable settlement, Ministry of water Resources have convened several meetings with the concerned States. However, no consensus could be reached.

Thereafter, the subject was also discussed in the meetings of the Northern Zonal Council held in October`97 and February`99. In the meeting held on 28.2.1999 it was resolved that a separate meeting of the Chief Ministers and concerned Ministers of State in Northern Zone would be convened to undertake in-depth study of all the relevant issues and factors relating to share of water and power and evolve a consensus on mutually agreeable parameters.

A meeting of the Chief Ministers/concerned Ministers of States in the Northern Zone was scheduled in April, 1999. However, the meeting could not be held due to Tricentenary celebrations in Punjab and subsequent announcement of General Elections. The meeting was again scheduled for on 29.7.2000 but had to be cancelled due to administrative reasons. However, an official level meeting under the chairmanship of Secretary (Power) was held on 29.7.2000 at New Delhi which was attended amongst others, by the representatives of State Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. In this meeting also, no consensus could be reached.

The Central Government is committed to an amicable settlement amongst the State concerned. In February`2001, the Ministry of Power have approached the concerned State Governments for indicating their convenience for holding the Conference of Chief Ministers in terms of the resolution of Northern Zonal Council. However, it has not been possible to convene the meeting because of absence of consensus amongst the States concerned.